

Series I
Correspondence,
1932-1973

Box 5, Folder 9

January 19, 1943 -
May 22, 1943

0831

Dear Bates, 19 February 1943, General Board, Admiral Kalbfus
Discussion of War College, letters of 19 and 20 February
and 27 March 1943.

My Dear Bates, Department of the Navy, Captain Harry Pence
3 May 1943--discussion of "Sound Military Decision"

0832

Fitness report submitted by Admiral E.C. KALBFUS, U.S. Navy, on Captain R.W. BATES, U.S. Navy. Submitted about November 1942.

* * * * *

An outstanding aggressive type of officer of great energy. Has a fertile mind and has a fine grasp of the higher aspects of his profession. Should make an excellent Chief of Staff or Operations Officer. Is well qualified for promotion when due. Also well qualified for independent hazardous command. Is a forceful and convincing speaker.

0833

In reply address not the signer of this letter, but Bureau of Naval Personnel, Navy Department, Washington, D. C. Refer to No.

NAVY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON, D. C.

January 19, 1943

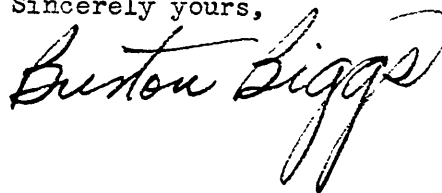
Dear Captain:

In your letter of January 14th you inquired about a Chief Gunnersmate Robert M. Phelps, U.S.N.R., and Lieutenant Commander James P. Lewis, (MC), U.S.N.R. The appointment of Phelps is contained in the January 15th bulletin of circular letters and he should receive this notice within the next week.

Lieutenant Commander Lewis was selected as eligible for promotion and at that time was not considered to be holding a Commander's billet. I am informed by the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery that they are ordering him to a Commander billet and will recommend his promotion at the same time. He will receive the same date of rank he would have received had he been appointed immediately.

I hope this information will answer your purpose.

Sincerely yours,



Captain R. W. Bates, U.S. Navy,
Naval War College,
Newport, Rhode Island.

0834

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
this letter, but Bureau of Navigation
has, D. C., D. C., D. C., D. C.
XXXXXXXX

XXXXX DEPARTMENT
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
BUREAU OF NAVIGATION
XXXXXXXXXXXX
WASHINGTON, D. C.

0835

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1 February 1943

Dear Rafe,

It was nice to get your note of 16 January. The delay in reply is due to the fact that I just got back in town last night from the journey to North Africa and return.

I appreciate very much your kind thoughts about the IOWA job. I realize full well that it is my big moment, and I hope with all my heart that I don't become a cropper. Putting a ship in commission in peace time is, as you know, a big job. Under the stress and strain of war, it is infinitely bigger.

If you would drop by the New York Navy Yard any time within the next six weeks, be sure to come on board and see us.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

J. L. McCREA

JOHN L. McCREA
Captain, U.S. Navy
Naval Aide to the President

Captain R. W. Bates, USN
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

0836

HEADQUARTERS 3RD AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
TAMPA, FLORIDA

February 1, 1943.

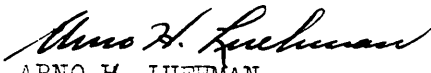
Captain Richard W. Bates, U.S.N.
c/o Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Captain Bates:

I am writing to you at the request of Major General St. Clair Streett, asking your help in sending to us a copy of a splendid map prepared at the Naval War College - H. O. Miscellaneous Number 94 (?) Strategic Map of the World. General Streett recalls having used this map while a student at the War College in '39, and I tried, unsuccessfully, to obtain one last year. We would appreciate any assistance you can lend in obtaining a copy of this map for his office.

I have been extremely busy since my return to Tampa supervising the training of medium bombardment and dive bombardment groups, and replacement crews. I have become so involved in the details incident thereto that I have had very little opportunity to even think about Joint Army-Navy Training. I have since, however, been extremely grateful for the privilege of attending your institution and hope that in the very near future I may be able to put to some practical use the things I have learned.

Very sincerely,


ARNO H. LUEHMAN,
Lieut. Colonel, G. S. C.

0837

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
GENERAL BOARD
WASHINGTON

February 19, 1943.

Dear Bates:

Thank you very much for your newsy letter. I had ^{an} mind dropping you a line to remind you that it was about time that I heard from you.

Admiral Pye was in the other day and stayed to luncheon with me. He said that you and Brown, and himself as well, were to speak at Columbia which I think is a very fine thing not only for the War College but for the civilians who are taking these special courses.

I note what you say about more stress being placed on weapons in the ^{war} College courses. I agree entirely with your idea and I can foresee other changes which will have to be made because of evolution due to the war.

This is the first time that the College has ever been in session during a war and, while the fundamentals must never be neglected in favor of special technological factors, the college must and will keep pace with the features of modern warfare. I can foresee that some of the earlier history may have to go by the board, and perhaps the Battle of Jutland, although I am very firm in my belief that we must never lose sight of the fact that the human element is the deciding factor, regardless of weapons and equipment.

I had heard about Tommy and Estelle but I didn't believe it and I wrote Norman Ballou and asked him to verify it. I haven't heard from him since but you say you have talked to Estelle yourself and that settles it. I don't want you to repeat what I say to anyone but I simply do not believe that this is a matter which has been planned for some time. I have known both of them intimately and had them immediately under my wing for five or more years. If there had been anything in the wind I don't think that I am such a dunce as not to have suspected it. I can't help but feel that this is due to something recent and I don't ~~know~~ what that might be.

0838

I have no doubt but what you will get a good sea job and I think you are quite wise in letting the matter rest for the time being. I think you stand high down here and I also think that you will neither be able to leave the college before the end of this session nor remain after that time. If I get a chance, however, I'll sound out Bill Fechteler and let you know if there is anything I can tell you.

I am going to fly back with the Secretary Monday afternoon if the flying is good that day.

Very sincerely yours,

Col. Ketchum

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
GENERAL BOARD
WASHINGTON

February 20, 1943.

Dear Bates:

I have just had a letter from Estelle in which she attacks me very vigorously because I have made inquiry concerning Tommy and herself. She appears to know definitely that I have made this inquiry but I can't imagine how she should know this.

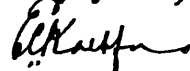
In any event, you must know that my only reason for making this inquiry was because I wished to be able to combat what I believed to be malicious gossip. I simply could not believe that Tommy and Estelle were to separate and it is not in my nature to see my friends attacked without taking their part. But she seems to think that I made this inquiry for the purpose of providing food for gossip. This, of course, is fortunately a matter which my own reputation clearly negatives and I have just written her and told her so.

Please, under no circumstances, mention me in any way in connection with this matter, and please do not repeat anything I have said to you in my last letter. I am disappointed and disillusioned but that is only because these two have been my friends and my helpers for so many years. I had considered them as one; they seemed to complement each other and I visualized them sailing along until they reached the top of the heap.

I am getting this off in haste in order that I may disappear completely from having any connection, verbally or spiritually, with this matter and this, of course, applies equally to Mrs. Kalbfus who, fortunately, doesn't know anything about it. I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter to Norman Ballou in confidence because you and he are the only ones to whom I have written on the subject.

With my warmest personal regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,



Captain R. W. Bates, U.S.N.
U. S. Naval War College,
Newport, Rhode Island.

0840

UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE
MIDSHIPMEN'S SCHOOL
NEW YORK, N.Y.

February 23, 1943

Captain R. W. Bates, U.S.N.
Naval War College
Newport, R. I.

My dear Captain:

We are greatly indebted to you for
your excellent talk on Naval Strategy.

Please be assured that you added materially to the success of the Civilian Orientation Course.

Very sincerely yours,



J. ROBERT HEWITT

Lieut. Comdr., USNR

Director of Civilian Orientation Course

glg

0841

In reply refer to No.

Headquarters of the
Commandant Third Naval District
Federal Office Building, 90 Church Street
New York, N. Y.

ADVANCED NAVAL INTELLIGENCE SCHOOL
353 West 57th Street
New York, N. Y.

February 24, 1943

Captain R. W. Bates, U.S. Navy,
Naval War College,
Newport, Rhode Island.

Dear Captain Bates:

We enjoyed your visit last week immensely, and I
most certainly hope that you will return in the future.

In behalf of the faculty and all the students, let me
thank you for your exciting and informative talk on the Coral
Sea battle.

Very respectfully,

John H. Mathis

John H. Mathis,
Lieutenant, USNR.

0842

626 N. Berendo
Los Angeles, Cal.

March 13, 1943.

Dear Dick,

Having not heard of you for years I suppose you are dead, but still you may not be. Anyhow-

I should be walking in the hills this Saturday morning to condition myself for the armed forces incase they decide in Washington to commission me captain. But the weather is inclement and I drank a little sauterne last night at 22 o'clock with some canned Argentine mutton and the combination leaves me perpetually near the smallest room in the house. Did you know I passed the army physical a week ago and that I and a dozen others here and dozens of other others in other high schools and colleges have been recommended for commissions for instruction in the army air corps? The only catch is that they only offer 2nd and 1st lieutenancies. I wrote to Washington to state that I can accept no rank less than captain, naturally. So when my papers come back they may have rejected me entirely. One of our faculty, a trained physicist and mathematician, was only offered a 2nd lieutenancy; so he joined the navy with a lieut. senior grade. The navy goes by age; the army goes by present salary. The only reason they recommended me was that I had taught the history of literature. Literature means nothing, but the history of it means everything, because they feel that anyone who can teach history can teach anything and they need instructors in airplane identification. This subject takes 6 months at 3 hours a day to master, but no matter, they just know I can do it, altho I now can recognize no more than about six American planes. I can recognize the Jenny but that's obsolete. Four of our faculty received navy commissions this week and are leaving today for indoctrination. The army group have not heard yet. By the way, Lt. Robert Harris, whom I gave a note of introduction to you, has finished Quonset Point, and is now on the staff there. His wife and sixteen year old daughter are with him. If you ever get lonely, you might meet them; the wife and daughter are attractive and sociably acceptable, which means nothing to me though and however.

If the army does not send me a captain's commission and if the college folds up for lack of students, I will go into the ship-yards gladly and feel just as useful as in the army teaching a subject of which I know nothing.

Are you married yet? You should learn to appease some nice girl.

Deely

*by the
local
procurement
office*

*Harris is a
friend of
Paul McHurt
& might
make you
an admiral!*

0843

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ACCOUTREMENTS
EMBROIDERIES - LACES

March 22nd, 1943
Letter #A-93

"On to Victory"

Captain R. W. Bates
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

My dear Captain Bates:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 16th as well as your package containing the two caps. We note that you specify that these caps are too large and that you have always worn a $7 \frac{3}{8}$ large or a $7 \frac{1}{2}$ small. Regarding this matter, we wish to make the following comments:

1. We had no size to go by except the cap you forwarded to us and we found marked on the frame of this cap the size $7 \frac{5}{8}$. Our cap manufacturers checked and found that this particular cap frame was larger than $7 \frac{1}{2}$.
2. We cannot understand why your old cap should be large because we did nothing with the frame. We merely put in a new sweat band and attached a new vizor.
3. Nevertheless, we will try to correct these two caps and make them size $7 \frac{1}{2}$ small.
4. The reason we are going out of the cap business is that there isn't a decent cap manufacturer left. All of the good ones are either dead or in the Military Services, and we prefer not to manufacture caps rather than make poor ones. We accepted your order as an accomodation and I am sorry to say that we have failed because we admit that the caps are not up to our standard; that is why we are going out of the cap business.

Very respectfully,
N. S. MEYER, INC.

BY: P. P. GOODMAN

PPG:p

0844



NAVY DEPARTMENT
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO:

March 25, 1943

My dear Rafe:

I have looked over the lyrics enclosed with your letter of March 20, and consider them good. Many such verses are received by this office for consideration, but yours appear to be better than average. The remarks made by Mark Sandrich and Bob Hope are good indications of its chances. Sandrich of Paramount, through his Music Department, should be a valuable contact in procuring the desired music to fit.

In the meantime, I will submit the lyrics to the Navy Band and School of Music here. Both organizations now contain gifted composers and it is possible that one of them may produce a worthy tune.

I have not heard your new version of "Eternal Father Strong to Save" and would appreciate receiving a copy.

Admiral Kalbfus sends you his best and wishes you all the luck in the world.

My best
Sincerely,

Leland P. Lovette
Leland P. Lovette
Captain, U. S. Navy
Director of Public Relations

Captain R. W. Bates, U. S. Navy
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

0845

U. S. NAVAL RESERVE MIDSHIPMEN'S SCHOOL
NEW YORK, N. Y.^{es}

In reply refer
to No.

COMMANDING OFFICER'S
OFFICE
411 West 116th Street
New York, N. Y.

25 MAR 1943

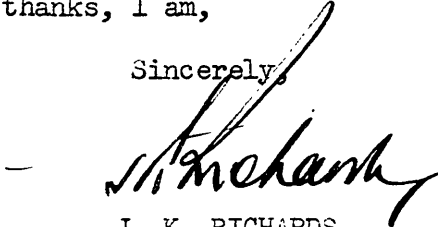
My dear Bates:

It gives me great pleasure to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for your recent talk before the members of the Civilian Orientation Course.

Your lecture materially aided in giving these business representatives an understanding of naval strategy.

I am enclosing a transcript of your remarks on that occasion. With best wishes and thanks, I am,

Sincerely,


J. K. RICHARDS,
Captain, U.S. Navy
Commanding.

Captain R. W. Bates, USN,
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island.

0846

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
GENERAL BOARD
WASHINGTON

March 27, 1943.

Dear Baker -

Many thanks for yours of the 17th which I have enjoyed immensely. We have been pretty busy on I would have replied earlier. I am glad to be busy, particularly on such subjects as we have been tackling. This is my first experience, for a great many years, of being without constant, even present responsibility and it all seems strange, - no rushing out on the bridge during the night, no newspapers demanding information on something that doesn't exist.

I still, however, can't get the point of view of those who, while agreeing that we are in a war to the finish, still insist on having their own way about everything that concerns them on their own interests. And I don't refer altogether to the fair bloc on the labor agitators. Washington, except for the crowds rushing in and out of the office morning and evening, doesn't look to me like a serious minded city. Perhaps we should be serious and I see how that I was all wrong in trying to impress Newport with the seriousness of war. I know some that didn't like it.

We had a mishap in our household about 3 weeks ago. Mrs. Kallf slipped on the pair of little steps that lead from her hall to the next level, and sprained her foot, not her ankle. The ligaments were torn but there was no fracture, fortunately. She had to sit quiet for the first two weeks but can hobble now although she can't cross the streets nor get in and out of the bus. We are having luncheon today with Mary Weston which is Mrs K's first attempt of the foot.

I am very sorry about the Ragan divorce for the pain of them will very much mark a path of our lives and I had expected to watch them go on and up together to the top. I can't understand Evella's vicious letter to me but I answered it

0847

and told her I had only done as a friend should do when
I sought to discredit the rumor. Alas, I thought she might
have told us herself for everybody else seemed to know about
it. She wrote me a second letter, very much nicer but I
can't overlook the first one. I mention this to you because
I tell you of the first letter. It is otherwise a dead issue.

Vladimir Beke and his wife were in town for a week
and came out for "tea" with us last Monday. Their talks of
the Seneca winter would be amusing if not so tragic. I
am certainly glad I closed up my house.

What a wealth of material the College has, and will have,
for analysis and discussion. I feel sure you are getting
everything that OWI gets out and, in the years to come, the history
of this war will crowd everything else out of every curriculum.
So far I don't see anything which discounts SMP, even with
the increased air activity. There will always be objections to
select, relative positions to be taken, fighting strengths to be
apportioned, and a necessity for freedom of action.

While the General Board is essentially a sedate and
dignified body, your story of the 57 minutes has been received
with merriment. I have nothing to send back in return but
will love for your rest.

Maude Beatty has gone to the "Columbia". I think the "New Jersey"
will go to a man whose name begins with H. You better come
down and look over the ground, pick out a good one, and let
me try and back it up.

We both send our love to you and I hope you'll write
soon again.

Very sincerely,

W. K. Kallfous.

Excuse handwriting —
Stenographers all busy.

0848

In reply refer to No.

Headquarters of the
Commandant Third Naval District
Federal Office Building, 90 Church Street
New York, N. Y.

ADVANCED NAVAL INTELLIGENCE SCHOOL
353 West 57th Street
New York, N. Y.

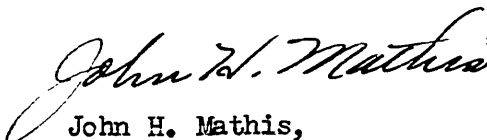
March 31, 1943

Captain R. W. Bates, U.S.N.,
Naval War College,
Newport, Rhode Island.

Dear Captain Bates:

I have been quite interested to see the reaction of the students to your talk on the Estimate of the Situation, Saturday morning. It was a wise choice to give it as the first of the series of the War College lectures because I find that it was very well received and contained much valuable information for our students. I want you to know how much we appreciate your coming down and hope that we will see you again in the near future.

Respectfully yours,


John H. Mathis,
Lieutenant, USNR.

0849

Mrs KALBFUS

JUVENILE COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON

FAY L. BENTLEY
JUDGE

Thursday, April 8th

Dear Captain Bates - Just a line to
tell you how we thrilled with ex-
citement and pride when Fred
Marney Pennycuik suddenly
burst into "Eternal Father", always
the most moving of hymns - and
with your rare following the more
familiar ones, We were excited and
so proud of you.

I have consciously enjoyed
parts of your letters to Ned, and
as he considered fit for me -
And he has truly loved hearing
from you, one of "this" people whose
abilities and worth he rates so high.

0850

If you are ever here, with a
minute to spare - do give us
a thought and a ring.
As ever - with all good wishes
Sylvia Kalbfus.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Serial 1746

First Endorsement on
Captain R.W. Bates, U.S.N.
Confidential Letter of
March 30, 1943

April 2, 1943.

From: The President, Naval War College.
To: The Secretary
Operational Proposals Board.
Subject: Anti-Submarine Warfare.

1. Forwarded.

W. S. Pyle

0852

[REDACTED]

First Endorsement on
Captain R.W. Bates, U.S.N.
Secret Letter of April 12, 1943.

Serial 1830

April 12, 1943

From: The President, Naval War College.
To: The Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance.
Subject: Depth Charges - New Design of.

1. Forwarded.
2. The transmission of this letter by registered mail within the continental limits of the United States is necessary and is hereby authorized.

W. S. Pye

Copy to:
Naval Research and Development Board.

0853

NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

April 12, 1943

From: Captain Richard W. Bates, U.S.N.
To: The Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance.
Via: The President, Naval War College.
Subject: Depth Charges - New Design of.

1. Somewhat more than one year ago, I discussed in Washington with Captain E. R. Shumaker, U.S.N., who was I believe in the Research Section of the Bureau of Ordnance, a conception which I had envisaged for a new design of depth charge exploder. This conception was that of having a depth charge exploder which would operate in three ways:

- (a) As at present by water pressure.
- (b) On the principle of a magnetic mine.
- (c) On the principle of an acoustic mine.

2. The reasons advanced for this were, of course, self-evident, and were about as follows:

(a) That with increasing knowledge of design and with increasing strength of materials, the depths to which submarines might dive were rapidly increasing and were nearing 600 feet in depth, although the reports on this were unconfirmed.

(b) That the greater the depth to which a submarine might safely dive, the less chance of destroying or even damaging it, as the probability that the depth charge was set at the proper depth was, at a minimum, inversely proportional to the possible limiting depth. Therefore, should the Axis produce a submarine that could operate at 600 feet, the performance of the anti-submarine forces would markedly decline.

3. I therefore suggested that it might be possible to design a depth charge which would operate as indicated in paragraph 1 above. I had thoroughly gone over the design of the magnetic mine and its possible application to a depth charge with the people in charge of degaussing here, and had discussed it also with Captain F. H. Roberts, U.S.N. then in command at the Naval Torpedo Station. My conception regarding the magnetic depth charge effect was about as follows:

DECLASSIFIED BY G. Thompson ON 11-19-97
NWP OPNAVINST 55513 SERIES, SUBJ: SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF 20-YEAR-OLD INFORMATION

0854

UNCLASSIFIED 12, 1945

Subject: Depth Charges - New Design of.

(a) That should the present depth charge setting be for say 400 feet, we might expect that no matter what happens, the charge should explode at that depth, if operating on the water pressure principle alone. But supposing that the submarine was not at 400 feet, but was at a less depth, say 200 feet. Then the effect of the explosion would only be effective in the danger area. That was where the magnetic idea came in. This idea was that the depth charge would be innocuous until it was tossed overboard. Then it would arm by means of water pressure which would be set to arm the magnetic device at say 50 feet. This would allow the dropping vessel to clear before the depth charge exploded.

After the depth charge had been so armed magnetically, it would be a menace to any submarine which was within the magnetic danger space, shall we call it, of the sinking depth charge. Thus should the depth charge explode before the expected time for the water pressure setting explosion to occur, it would be a clear indication of the presence of a submarine. It would not necessarily indicate that the submarine had been destroyed, but it would most probably be an indication of damage.

(b) My knowledge of the acoustic exploder at that time was quite indefinite and our discussion on that subject was slight, but it was believed that it could be got to operate by sound from the submarine within the danger space of the depth charge in a manner somewhat similar to that of the magnetic exploder.

(c) The installation of devices such as the above would require that some scheme be installed for destroying the depth charge should it land in water shallower than the depth setting. Otherwise such an unexploded charge might be a menace to own submarines.

4. Captain Shumaker stated, after some discussion, that the Bureau had some such project in mind, but what it was was not clearly set forth. He also stated that as I had explained my ideas it would not be necessary to forward them by letter. To date, I have heard nothing further about this project, nor is there any information thereon in the Archives of the Naval War College, although there is some information concerning British experience with a magnetic depth charge.

5. With our ever present concern over the serious Axis threat to our lines of communication in the Atlantic, the continuance of my personal interest, as an original proponent of the development of an anti-submarine device embodying the principles and features described above, is, I am sure, readily understandable. I should be interested in learning, for example -

(a) Whether the idea has been of physical experiment and test.

Declassified by authority of
General Declassification
Schedule of Executive Order
12958 dated 17 April 1995

0855

April 12, 1945

Subject: Depth Charges - New design of.

(b) Whether results of such tests were sufficiently favorable to warrant manufacture and issue to the service of a depth charge embodying the magnetic and/or acoustical detonation principle(s), or other principles.

(c) What radii of effectiveness were established or are considered attainable.

(d) Approximate period of time necessary before such a device can be made available for issue to the Naval Service, and

(e) If test results were unfavorable, whether the idea is still considered sufficiently practicable to be deserving of further study and experimental research.

6. The transmission of this letter by registered mail within the continental limits of the United States is necessary and is hereby authorized.

R. W. Bates

Copy to:
Naval Research and Development Board.

UNCLASSIFIED

Declassified by authority of
General Declassification
Schedule of Executive Order
12958 dated 17/ April 1995

0856

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
GENERAL BOARD
WASHINGTON

May 3, 1943.

My dear Bates:

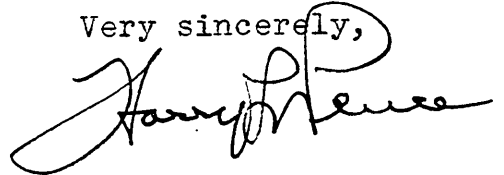
As you perhaps know, I not only have duty with the General Board, but additional duty in connection with plans for military control of occupied territory. In the latter capacity I have been thrown with several gentlemen from our prominent universities, and have been instrumental in having some of them given commissions in the Navy. They are already very useful and will be more so later on.

The writer of the enclosed is now a Lt. Commander here in my office. I know of your great interest in the War College work, "Sound Military Decision", for Admiral Kalbfus has told me of the tremendous assistance you were to him and of your thorough grasp of fundamentals. He knows of the support you are giving "Sound Military Decision" and knows that you are alive to the danger that lies in short cuts, without serious trained thinking.

I have ventured, therefore, to send you the enclosed copy, the sentiments of which seem to place a definite stamp of approval on "Sound Military Decision". I have told Lt. Commander Murdock that I consider that some of his minor criticisms are not well based. For instance, I know that the Fundamental Military Principle is a principle and, as such, a basis for procedure, -- not merely a procedure in itself. But that's a small matter, one way or the other.

With best regards, I am,

Very sincerely,



Captain Bates, U.S.N.
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

0857

NAVAL WAR COLLEGE

NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

May 5, 1943

Dear Davey:

I received a telephone call today from your beloved Caroline and I immediately looked the situation over from here.

We have an officer on the staff who is due to go to sea and who would fit your specifications exactly. His name is Lieutenant Commander Albert Pratt, D-V(G), U.S.N.R. Don't be excited about the rank of Lieutenant Commander as he is a relatively young man and only made Lieutenant Commander today. He is smart not only in brain but in appearance and has done excellent work here on the staff of the Preparatory Staff Class. He is due to go to sea at the end of this course, that is, around 2 June and the Amphibious Force at Norfolk has already indicated that they would like to have him through Colonel Burkert on that staff. Pratt says he would be glad to go.

The Admiral says that he would be delighted to let you have Pratt but that he prefers that he not leave before 26 May. I think that he is well worth waiting for.

Best regards to you and here's hoping that your sea duty will always be as you like it.

Sincerely yours,

Rear Admiral Lyal A. Davidson, U.S.N.
U.S.S. Philadelphia
c/o Postmaster
New York, N. Y.

0858

3416 Reservoir Road, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

May 17, 1943.

The Editor,
The Washington Post,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

The word "Navy" as an adjective is creeping into general use. It is very conspicuous in print, and not infrequently it is conveyed by the spoken word. The headlines on the enclosed clipping from this morning's Post draw attention to the approaching marriage of one "Navy" officer, and to a wedding ceremony in the case of another "Navy" officer. This, however, is merely a case in point; the practice seems to be becoming widespread.

A living language is, of course, constantly subject to the changes dictated by good usage; new words are introduced, while others acquire shades of meaning quite different from their original import. All this is gracefully accepted after it has become an accomplished fact. However, we are not compelled to accept as good usage everything we see or hear, and we may properly raise our voices in protest of tendencies toward unwelcome distortion of time honored, established usage.

A very large number of officers are graduates of the Naval Academy. When they entered that institution they embarked upon a naval career, the naval profession being their chosen calling. Some of them were Naval Cadets for six years. Both regular officers and officers of the Naval Reserve serve on naval vessels and many have taken part in naval expeditions, even in naval engagements. Some are experts in naval ordnance, others in naval engineering, still others in naval communications. All of us wear the naval uniform with its naval insignia. We observe naval customs, we eulogize our naval heroes, and we are proud of our naval traditions. We have been under the impression that we are Naval Officers.

After all these years are we now to be Navy Officers, and wear Navy uniforms (as advertised), merely because the naval establishment has been greatly expanded to meet the requirements of naval warfare?

With my assurances of my high regard, I beg to remain,

Very sincerely yours,

E. C. Kalbfus,
Admiral, U.S. Navy, (Ret.)

0859

First Endorsement on
BuOrd SECRET Serial 00316,
of May 14, 1953

Naval War College
May 18, 1943.

~~SECRET~~

From: The President, Naval War College.
To: Captain Richard W. Bates, U.S.N.
Subject: Depth Charges - New Design of.

1. Delivered.

H. H. Crosby
H.H. Crosby
Captain, U.S.N.,
Chief of Staff.

J. H. B.
RR
—

DECLASSIFIED BY *S. S. W. / K* ON *7/5/07* IAW DOD MEMO OF
4/12/74, SUBJ: DOWNGRADE/DECLASS OF HISTORICAL RECORDS

0860

3046439

IN REPLY ADDRESS
BUREAU OF ORDNANCE, NAVY DEPARTMENT
AND REFER TO NO.

S76-2

(Re6b)

NAVY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF ORDNANCE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

MAY 14 1943

00316

From: The Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance
To: Captain Richard W. Bates, U.S.N.
Via: The President, Naval War College
Subject: Depth Charges - New Design of -
Reference: (a) Addressee's secret ltr. of 12 April,
1943 to BuOrd.

1. Reference (a) states that over a year ago the addressee revealed to Captain S. R. Shumaker, U.S.N., of this Bureau, an original conception of a depth charge firing mechanism involving the following methods of actuation:

- ~~SECRET~~
- (a) Hydrostatic
 - (b) Magnetic
 - (c) Acoustic

2. It is advised that the development of devices incorporating these principles was initiated prior to the discussion referred to in paragraph one above. From the experience gathered in development it was considered that to incorporate an acoustic firing device into a magnetic firing unit would produce an unduly complicated arrangement. Two projects, therefore, have resulted:

- (a) A magnetic depth charge firing mechanism in combination with hydrostatic pistol.
- (b) An acoustic depth charge firing mechanism in combination with hydrostatic pistol.

Production has been initiated on the magnetic, or Mark 8 depth charge, while the acoustic device is still in the development stage.

3. If further information concerning these developments is desired by the President of the Naval War College, such information will be forwarded upon receipt of an official request.



DSW: MINECLASSIFIED BY S. Campbell ON 11/5/97 BY W. H. P. BLANDY
IAW DOD 6030.01

041743 300074/12/74, SUBJ: DOWNGRADE/DECLASS OF HISTORICAL RECORDS

0861

U. S. NAVAL RESERVE MIDSHIPMEN'S SCHOOL
NEW YORK, N. Y. glg

In reply refer
to No.

COMMANDING OFFICER'S
OFFICE
411 West 116th Street
New York, N. Y.

May 18, 1943

Captain R. W. Bates, USN
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

My dear Captain Bates:

I was distressed to have to cut short your very able talk on the subject of "Strategy" before the second Civilian Orientation Group. I should have been more explicit in telling you exactly how long we had for the morning session. Unfortunately, the Under Secretary arrived early and had an early afternoon engagement; therefore, those about him were rather restive. I am sure, however, you understood.

Once again may I thank you for the very excellent talk which you gave and please be assured that you again added materially to the success of the course.

Very sincerely yours,



J. ROBERT HEWITT
Lieut. Comdr., USNR
Director of Civilian Orientation Course

0862

Commander Cruiser Division Eight
U. S. S. Philadelphia, Flagship
Care of Postmaster, New York, N. Y.
22 May 1943.


Dear Dick:-

Your very fine letter received. I appreciate your going to the trouble of looking over the field for an Aide for me and regret that I shall be unable to delay the necessary period for him to finish his course. Our future operations are such that the staff must be organized and trained and working smoothly before your graduation exercises take place. When I asked you to make a recommendation I was under the impression that graduation took place in May. Give my regards to Admiral Pye and thank him for his interest.

I miss Fleming a great deal in the work of preparation and training as I used him to assist me in the operations. His loss will be even more keenly felt soon but I have been able to get a good man from the ship whom I feel sure will do a good job.

I am glad to hear that Steinwachs is getting back to sea where he wishes to be and wish you and the others all success in your new jobs. Give my best regards to all of my friends.

Sincerely,


Lyal A. Davidson
Rear Admiral U.S. Navy.

Captain Richard W. Bates, U.S.N.
U.S. Naval War College,
Newport, R.I.

0863